

### **REMARKS**

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7-8, 10, 12-13 and 15-27 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,723, 093. The Applicant submits that this rejection is improper because the above entitled applicant is a continuation of the '093 patent. The Applicant is enclosing herein a copy of the transmittal sheet which clearly indicates that the above entitled application as filed is a continuation of 10/104,940. The '940 application matured into the '093 patent. Because the '093 patent is the parent of the above entitled application, the Applicant submits that this reference cannot be cited as prior art against the present pending claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5-8, 11-12, 19-21, and 25-28 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hood. The Applicant has amended the claims to more clearly define the various components of the assembly and its usage in a system. The claims recite a stop that is inserted into an inner channel of a body, which is inserted into a probe. This limitation is described on page 15 of the above entitled application.

Hood does not disclose a stop inserted into an inner channel of a body, which is inserted into a probe. Hood merely discloses a probe 270 that is inserted into a socket of female probe connector 288. Hood does not disclose or suggest that the body 270 contain an inner channel which receives a stop as recited in the claims. For this reason, the Applicant submits that Hood does not anticipate or render obvious the claims of the above entitled application.

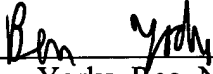
In view of the above, it submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 1, 2, 4, 6-8, 10, 12, 13, and 15-27 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

IRELL & MANELLA LLP

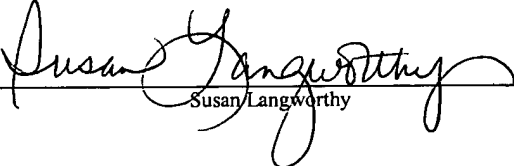
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Susan Langworthy